



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
Building 96
380 Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe, VA 23651*

Travis A. Voyles
Secretary of Natural and Historic
Resources

Jamie L. Green
Commissioner

May 18, 2023

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2023 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB CLASS A AND CLASS B DREDGE FISHERY CATEGORIES EFFECTIVE 12 NOON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24TH, 2023.

Effective 12 noon, Wednesday, May 24th, 2023, the Virginia horseshoe crab dredge harvest commercial fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it is projected that Virginia will have harvested 100% of the horseshoe crab dredge category quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Class A and Class B Dredge Category Permittees by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 12 noon, Wednesday, May 24th, 2023, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except trawl, pound net, or by hand shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments please contact Ethan Simpson (757) 247-2272.